Department of Development Services

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300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046-3332

REQUIRED RESIDENTIAL LOT AND YARD SIZES BY ZONE

R-1A LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (48.238)						
	1-Family	Other Principal or	Accessory Use			
	Residential	Conditional Uses	Buildings			
Lot area:	11,250 sq.'	20,000 sq.'				
Lot width:	75'	100'				
Front yard:	30'	30'	30'			
Side yard:	15'	25'	3'			
Rear yard:	40'	40'	3'			
Building height:	35' or 2 ½ stories*	45' or 3 stories*	12'			
Lot coverage:	25%	30%	≤30% of minimum rear yard area			

Note: Driveways, walks and uncovered decks do not count as building coverage.

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R-1B Medium Density Residential (48.263)						
	1-Family	2-Family	Other Principal or	Accessory Use		
	Residential	Residential	Conditional Uses	Buildings		
Lot area:	7,500 sq.'	12,000 sq.'	20,000 sq.'			
Lot width:	60'	100'	100'			
Front yard:	25'	25'	25'	25'		
Side yard:	10'	10'	20'	3'		
Rear yard:	30'	30'	40'	3'		
Building height:	35' or 2 ½ stories*	45' or 3 stories*	45' or 3 stories*	12'		
Lot coverage:	25%	25%	30%	≤30% of minimum rear yard area		

*Substandard lot building height shall be determined as a ratio of actual lot area to the required lot area, multiplied by the maximum allowable height in the underlying zoning district, but not less than 25 feet.

- For residential uses, yards are measured from the property line.
- Detached garages and sheds must be in a side or rear yard at least 10 feet from the house and 3 feet off the property line; maximum 12-foot height at the midpoint of the ridge.
- A porch with roof, posts and rails may project 8 feet into a front setback. Consult with staff regarding decks, balconies and enclosed porches before application.
- Historic accessory structure height: (20) feet to peak and 1-1/2 stories.
- Fence height: 4 feet in a front yard, 7 feet in a rear yard, 10 feet in any yard when enclosing a playground, park, schoolyard, etc.

EXCEPTION: SUBSTANDARD LOTS (SEC. 48-1102)

- Side yards—reduced to not less than (20%) of the lot width, but not to less than $(7\frac{1}{2})$ feet.
- Rear yard—may be reduced to not less than (30%) of the lot depth but not less than (20) feet.
- For demolition and reconstruction of houses that straddle substandard lots after August 1, 2013, see Sec. 48-1102(b) for code revision.

Note: This is a summary of the Code. Please refer to Chapter 48 and the related zoning district sections for specifics & additional information. Online version of the Code is available at www.fallschurchva.gov. In all cases, the official version of Chapter 48 takes precedence.

